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## EVERY DAY ADDS INTEREST

(Continued from Page One.)

tions, at which friends of Bryan were vying in the expectation that he will carry his home State this autumn and that he will pull some of the State offices along with him. He kept his hands off the primaries, but it was generally understood that the nomination of his very close friend, Mayor Dahlman of Omaha, for Governor, would not have been displeasing to the Commoner. However, Mayor Dahlman was defeated by a bare figure, and a more conservative candidate was nominated to head the ticket.

From all of which the friends of Bryan throughout the country and the observant Republicans, who do not think their candidate is going to have a walkaway, are remarking upon this spirit of revolt against the nomination of personal favorites for office by those who hold high place in the councils of politics and from all of which they are thinking quietly about the fact that Taft is the personal selection of Roosevelt. It may or may not mean anything. There is such a spirit of popular unrest abroad that there is no telling just how much significance to attach to any particular straw in the present campaign.

### The Significance of Vermont.

Up in Vermont, however, elections have been held for State officers and for a new Legislature. The outcome up there in that rockribbed Republican State was all the party leaders could hope for. If the oldtime claim that when Vermont gives more than 25,000 majority for the Republicans the following November has any foundation, the election of Taft seems to be presaged. For Vermont gave her Republican candidate for Governor a plurality of approximately 30,000 and a majority of about 2000 less. It is well to remember, however, that some important popular precedent is smashed at nearly every national election, and it depends much upon the way one analyzes the Vermont returns as to whether he derives Republican or Democratic consolation therefrom. Folks used to say that Maine's vote was an indicator of the national election, but in 1880 Maine elected a Democratic Governor and two months later Garfield was chosen Republican President of the United States. Then, again, there is a vast difference between the frame of mind of New England in this political year of 1908 and the frame of mind of the Middle West, where Bryan has to depend for many electoral votes, if he hopes to get into the White House. And still, again, the trend of sentiment changes quickly on occasion in these modern days, when the means of communication are rapid. So the long and the short of it is that both sides are getting consolation out of Vermont, when neither dares "let up" one bit in activity in getting votes from other States.

After next week the campaign, which really started a year or more ago, will be in full swing. There will be a finish of about six active weeks. The orators will be out upon the hustings in force. The Maine election will be held early next week. The New York conventions will be disposed of about that time. The nominations for Congress will have been made also in all the States, except possibly Massachusetts, where the convention work is all done in early October. Nothing will remain except to pull for the shore, and may the strongest party win. The Republicans will then know about what factors they have to deal with. All the discussions as to the availability of men for the diverse Federal, State and legislative tickets will have ended. Every ounce of energy—Republican energy and Democratic energy—can be applied to getting the most votes into the ballot-boxes.

### Lots of Campaign Funds.

And by that time, too, the collection of the campaign funds, so essential to party success, will be advanced. The organization machinery of both parties will be completed and oiled. The evidences point to the prospect that both organizations will be especially efficient. This is in marked contrast with previous presidential years, when the Democrats have been crippled by inefficient or unpopular management. No one knows just how well filled the campaign strong boxes are to be. The Republicans are saying that the time is very hard for contributions and that it looks like a drought year. Privately those who ought to know are saying: "Oh, we will get money enough." The fact that some of the best hat-passers in the party have been enlisted for services in all the big industrial centers shows that the Republicans are doing business, but it is not to be expected that the proceeds of their efforts will be exhibited to the public yet awhile.

The Democrats claim that they are doing very well financially, thank you, but that they are getting their funds from the people, the plain people, if you don't mind. They will tell all about it in October, one month from now and before the election—not after the election, as the Republicans promise to do. Presumably, the Democratic contributions are smaller than those of their brethren of the opposition, but, all the same, the Democracy must be getting from somewhere. They are running an extensive and an expensive establishment and such an establishment cannot be conducted on wind. So let us wait till the expenses are made public in the middle of October.

### Rainbow-Chasing This Year.

The original campaign rainbow-chaser, whoever he may have been, would "take to the woods" in this campaign year of 1908. Some say he was the late Senator Calvin S. Brice, of Ohio, who early laid claim to formidable Republican strongholds in 1888, and insisted that numerous November capitulations to Grover Cleveland, then concluding his first presidential term, were sure to come. It was the same year that the late Senator Quay originated "fat-frying" on a big scale.

This year, whatever be the outcome in November, both party managements are undoubtedly chasing rainbows assiduously. The Democrats have filed claims on practically every State west of the Alleghany Mountains, save Mich-

igan and Washington. It comprises a great sweep of commonwealths that have been going Republican, in the main, campaign after campaign, ever since the Republican party elected its first President in 1860. The other day Mr. Bryan swirled through the State of North Dakota. That act in itself indicated his faith that the four electoral votes of that State might go for him. But he also told his friends of his faith. North Dakota has never voted for a Democratic presidential candidate. It was one of the few far western and northwestern States that stood firmly through the former Bryan years. Two years ago it elected its first Democratic Governor, but that was solely because the Republicans fell to quarreling and the dominant faction put up a weak machine gubernatorial candidate.

The Republicans this year are unable to chase rainbows, except south of Mason and Dixon's line. They carried every northern and three or four border States in 1904. They have full right, as political claims go, to file on every one of these States this year, although in some of them they have little more than a fighting chance. When the time comes, shortly before the election, for making up official columns, however, they will arrange every State probably, that Roosevelt carried as for Taft. They will be putting in some of the Southern States, too.

### The Case of Missouri.

Missouri was long the subject of Republican presidential claims, before it flopped in 1904. Roosevelt carried it because of the Democratic stay-at-home vote, not because of the Republican strength. And yet Republican claims to Missouri were by no means fantastic, because in normal times there is only a difference of 1 or 2 per cent. between the votes of the two leading parties in Missouri. As far back as 1900 Representative Champ Clark, Democrat, who knows his "imperial Missouri" superlatively, sat in the Midland Hotel lobby one evening during the Kansas City convention, and proclaimed his conviction that if the radical faction of the dominant party in that State were offended, as they would be offended by the nomination of a conservative Democrat for the Presidency, then "Good-bye to our eighteen electoral votes." The Missouri radicals were not thus offended till four years later, when Mr. Clark's prediction came true.

There are no such conditions in Tennessee, Georgia and Virginia as there were in Missouri. The rainbow-chasing in that trio of States does not deceive the State leaders; neither do the National leaders deceive themselves. But it "heartens" the Republican rank and file and the little Republican campaign attentions, not to mention something of an allotment of funds when the time for distribution from National headquarters comes, does inject some spirit into the voters to get to the polls. This year it will encourage somewhat the Democratic business men in those States who, in considerable numbers, intend to vote for Taft because of their bitterness toward Bryan. That, in fact, is the reason for the Republican rainbow-chasing.

### Fantastic Western Claims.

There are but few Middle Western and Far Western States that Bryan and his managers are claiming this year which have not gone Democratic at least one or twice in presidential campaigns of the last quarter of a century. Nevertheless some of their claims are quite as fantastic as Southern Republican claims. Ohio, which they profess to have hopes of carrying, never voted for a Democratic President, but in 1892 Cleveland came within about 1000 votes of carrying it, and, as a matter of fact, did get one of the electors. Iowa, which they are claiming, has withstood the shock of all revolutions in presidential politics and has always gone steadfastly Republican. It elected a Democratic Governor or two many years ago, which every Northern State, except Vermont—and possibly Michigan—has done.

Illinois, the third most populous State in the Union, never wavered but once. That was in 1892, to the surprise of all the political sharps. Wisconsin has rarely "gone wrong," and has voted for but one Democratic President—Cleveland—although it has chosen two or three Democratic Governors.

West of the Mississippi, all the States except Iowa have been more or less erratic presidentially. The voters are susceptible to new and attractive issues. But the habit of voting the Republican ticket in majorities is pretty well fixed, even there. It was only a Congress or two ago that not a single Democratic Representative was elected from the transmississippi region. Only one—he is from Nevada—holds a seat from there now.

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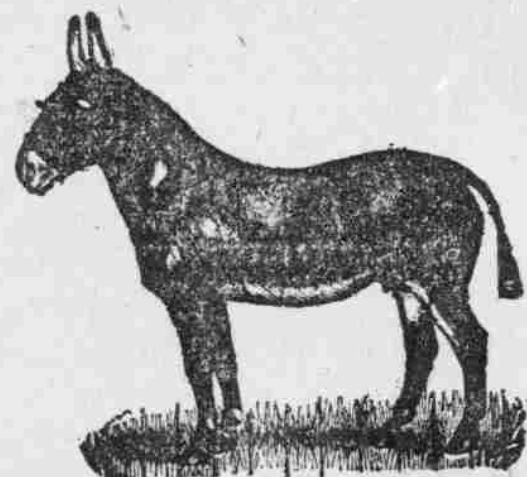
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